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MIQ-2061

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 London Bureau, FBIS

Dear Paul:

Subj: MLD-2025

The Agency has just completed a long-term competition for word processors and has come down on the side of the Wang Office System. This is a minicomputer-based system and is capable of a very wide range of functions. Software packages already are available.

We are expecting to receive some guidelines from ODP on word processor acquisition shortly. As soon as these are available we will send them on to you and a couple other bureaus which are also looking into word processors so that the essential justifications can be prepared. These will be reviewed in Headquarters and if the rationale is persuasive we will look around for the money. The Wang costs around \$12,000. In the meantime you can look into Wang support in the U.K. and work up the specs you mention.

Ideally, the way to go would be to design the field editorial/communications system and then look at the administrative support requirements to see if they could ride on the larger system. But, considering your needs, and those of Okinawa and a couple other bureaus, we'll probably find we can't wait around until the field editing system is outlined and funded to acquire word processors. If we do move ahead in the next year to obtain word processors it will be important that we have compatible equipment across the bureaus, so Wang is the way to go. In fact, it's probably the only way we'd be allowed to go.

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Sincerely,

 Chief, Operations Group

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